



HOWARD COUNTY OFFICE OF COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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July 8, 2009

The Honorable Beverly K. Swaim-Staley
Office of the Secretary
Maryland Department of Transportation
7201 Corporate Center Drive
Hanover, MD 21076

Dear Acting-Secretary Swaim-Staley:

I am pleased to support Howard County's \$25 million Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant proposal for Federal stimulus funding to develop a Central Maryland Transit Operations Facility.

This proposed facility offers a unique opportunity to stabilize existing jobs in Maryland and to preserve and/or create more than 100 jobs in transit operations, engineering, construction and manufacturing. Furthermore, the facility will greatly enhance commuting opportunities in support of planned BRAC related job growth at Fort Meade and the National Security Agency (NSA).

The Transit Operations Facility is a collaborative effort, combining the maintenance and operational needs of three transit operations in the Central Maryland area between Baltimore and Washington, DC. This joint action is designed to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of transit operations, facilitating cost savings, increased transit ridership, and a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my support for this worthy project.

Sincerely,

Ken Ulman
County Executive

cc: Howard County State Delegation
Howard County Council
Don Halligan, Director, MDOT
Paul Wiedefeld, Administrator, MTA
Diane Ratcliff, Director, Office of Planning, MTA